

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 4, 5 and 7. The changes to Figures 4 and 5 are to correct typographical errors. Namely, the chart reference “BAMK A WRITE ADDRESS REGISTER” should read “BANK A WRITE ADDRESS REGISTER.” The amendment to Figure 7 is to add the legend “RELATED ART” as per the examiner’s request.

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated June 9, 2005 (Paper No. 1). The present Amendment amends claims 1-6 to correct minor matters of form. New claims 7-15 have also been added. Support for these new claims can be found variously throughout the specification including, for example, original claims 1-6. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-15 are presently pending in the application, each of which is believed to be in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the present Amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim to Priority

Acknowledgement of the proper receipt of the certified formal papers filed in connection with Applicant's claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is noted with appreciation.

Drawings:

According to the examiner's instructions, a Replacement Sheet for Figure 7 has been attached to this Amendment in order to add the legend "RELATED ART." Additionally, Figures 4 and 5 have been amended to correct typographical errors. Namely, the chart reference "BAMK A WRITE ADDRESS REGISTER" should read "BANK A WRITE ADDRESS REGISTER." None of these changes are believed to constitute new matter. Accordingly, entry of these corrected drawings and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is courteously solicited.

Preliminary Amendment

Entry of the Preliminary Amendment filed on April 18, 2005 is noted with appreciation.

Specification

The specification has been reviewed to correct minor matters of form. Changes to the specification were made in the April 18, 2005 Preliminary Amendment and are also addressed herewith under the section Amendments to the Specification.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Applicant thanks the examiner for recognizing claims 4-6 as containing allowable subject matter.

New Claims

Support for new claims 7-15 can be found variously throughout the specification, including, for example, original claims 1-6. New independent claim 7 contains the subject matter of independent claim 1 and dependent claims 3 and 4. New independent claim 11 contains the subject matter of independent claim 1 and dependent claim 5. Since each of these new claims is clearly distinguishable from the applied art of record, allowance of the same is courteously solicited.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,835,963 to Yoshioka ("Yoshioka"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a semiconductor memory device having a plurality of memory banks...*each of said memory banks comprising:...a control circuit* for outputting write data held in said data register as read data from a memory cell specified by a read address when receiving said address matching signal indicating that said write address held in said address register matches with said read address to be input by said matching detection circuit when performing reading continuously from writing.

In contrast, although Yoshioka arguably discloses a cache memory with four banks divided into an address array and a data array, one comparator for each bank and a single cache controller CACHE-C, Yoshioka fails to disclose, teach or suggest at least *each memory bank* comprising a *control circuit*, as recited in claim 1. *See, e.g.*, col.16, line 49 to col. 18, line 41 and Fig. 10. Accordingly, because Yoshioka fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1, a *prima facie* anticipation rejection has not been established, and withdrawal of this rejection is

respectfully requested. *See, e.g., Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference”).

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 2 and 3, being dependent upon allowable base claim 1, are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency upon allowable claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-2888 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

August 2, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By

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Attachments: Replacement Sheet for Figure 4
Replacement Sheet for Figure 5
Replacement Sheet for Figure 7